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S&H Form: (2/01)  
Attorney Docket No. 826.1764

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Hiroshi IKEDA et al.

Application No.: 09/982,840

Group Art Unit: 2835

Confirmation No.: 8384

Filed: October 22, 2001

Examiner:

For: ROUTE SEARCHING METHOD, TIMING ANALYZING METHOD, WAVEFORM ANALYZING METHOD, ELECTRONIC CIRCUIT SIMULATION APPARATUS, AND STORAGE MEDIUM THEREFOR

**STATUS INQUIRY LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests the status of the above-identified patent application, including an indication as to when the next communication can be expected.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 10/28/04

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